



Masjid Jafar

Al-Rahmah Community Center

لا إله إلا الله محمد رسول الله

ANNUAL REPORT

2022

A look back at all we've done as a community.



MESSAGE OF GRATITUDE

In the name of Allah, Most Gracious, Most Merciful. I, on behalf of the Masjid Jafar board of directors and the executive committee, would like to appreciate, after Allah first and foremost, our community for the trust they place in us in the stewardship of the masjid. I have had the honor to serve as your Imam for a little over a year now and am grateful for the opportunity to be involved with such a caring community. We hope this report serves as a reminder for all the great efforts we collectively contribute towards and for us to have an overview of where we are and where we can possibly go. May Allah continue to bless all of us! Ameen.

Imam Arshad Anwar

VISION

Striving to attain excellence in Islamic character at an individual and community level through solid education and social service based on Quran and Sunnah.

MISSION

- Establish a center of Islamic knowledge to promote scholarship.
- Mentor youth to build strong character and become next generation leaders.
- Network with social organizations to help the needy.
- Engage in community outreach and interfaith dialog for dawah.



SPIRITUAL & EDUCATIONAL

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Halaqas

We held many halaqas over the last year and a half including recurring halaqas on specific days every week. Some of our halaqas included:

- Summary of the book “al-Bahr al-Raa'iq Fi al-Zuhd war-Raqaaia” about the state of a believer’s heart (Imam Arshad)
- Summary of the book “Madarij al-Salikeen” by Ibn al-Qayyim about the stations of righteousness (Imam Arshad)
- Coffee Talks for youth girls (Sister Taghreed)
- The Path of the Prophet (Imam Arshad & Hafiz Ahmed Ali)
- Various youth halaqas with JCHS MSA and more

Workshops


We held many workshops for the entire community. Here’s what we’ve done so far:

- Addressing Atheism in our Communities (Imam Arshad)
- Ramadan Ready (Multiple guest speakers)
- My Children’s Bill of Rights (Brother Rodwan Saleh)
- Quran Connect (Hafiz Ahmed Ali)
- Love of Allah (Imam Asif Hirani)
- Why Islam is True (Nihal Khan)
- Raising Strong Children (Shaykh Monzer Taleb)
- College Panel (GaTech & GSU MSAs)
- How to be a Grateful Servant (Imam Arshad)
- A Life of Peace: The Faith & Science of Gratitude (Imam Arshad)

Courses

We conducted a number of courses aimed at increasing the religious literacy of our community through detailed Islamic knowledge. The courses offered since September 2021 were:

- Firm Faith (Aqeedah by Imam Arshad)
- Blessed Bond (Fiqh of Salah by Imam Arshad)
- The Miracle Manifested (Quranic Arabic by Ahmed Abbasi)
- Women’s Qiraa’ah Program (Sister Fatima Farooqi)
- The Savior: A Study of Surah Al-Mulk (Tafsir by Imam Arshad)
- New & Renewed Sisters Islamic Education (Dr. Dalia Sofi)



SPIRITUAL & EDUCATIONAL

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Sunday & After School

Alhamdulillah, our Sunday and after school programs made a post-covid revival. We started off with smaller numbers of students returning but now are picking back up. We have over 70 students registered in these programs. We encourage the community to connect their children with these programs once again and look forward to exceeding our pre-covid registration numbers, inshaAllah.

Our Sunday school teachers and administration worked with Imam Arshad to revamp and thoroughly design a unique curriculum for each grade level. This design reflects the needs of Muslim students in today's world. The detailed program for Sunday & after school can be viewed at <http://bit.ly/jafaryoutheducation>. We are blessed with a great team and a community that places their trust in us for the education of their children.

We would like to thank our Sunday school team which includes our administrators, Sisters Taghreed Arman and Dr. Dalia Sofi. Our wonderful teachers for this year are Hana Arman, Kholod Arman, Manar Alwan, Iman Elmansouri, Suzan Elmansouri, Orob Arman, Bayan Shuaib, Abir Odeh, Bara'ah Odeh, Nahida Abu Adas, & Brother Ahmed Awad.

Jumu'ah Prayers

Due to the increase in numbers of congregants gathering for Jumu'ah prayers, we successfully added a second Jumu'ah service, Alhamdulillah. The times of these prayers adjust slightly as the seasons of the year bring us various times for Dhuhar and Asr prayers. We also have a vibrant roster of Khateebis that are regularly scheduled throughout the month. Besides Imam Arshad, we are blessed to have Brothers Hussein Mereby, Ghazanfar Mian, Tareef Saeb, Ahmed Abbasi and we welcomed in December our own Hafiz Ibrahim Hussein in delivering his first of many khutbahs, inshaAllah, at our masjid.



RELIGIOUS COUNSELING & SERVICES

Imam Arshad holds regular office hours and flexible meeting times in-person, virtually, or over the phone. He has accommodated hundreds of appointments dealing with personal, social, spiritual, marital, mental health related and other issues. The Imam has resources available to guide people to get help with various circumstances. Please continue to utilize this service. His calendar is available at bit.ly/imamarshad.

COMMUNITY BUILDING

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Gathering as One

We had an eventful year as we came together to share food and fun with each other. We held a Fall Festival, Eid Bazars, celebrated Eid with neighboring communities, hosted potlucks, went on a hike, and ended the year with a Family Fun Night & celebrating those who went for Umrah in our community. We host these gatherings to bring our hearts together and we ask Allah to bless us in our efforts!



Broader Community Building

We have been fortunate to play an active role in our Johns Creek community as well. We coordinated a sensitivity training for the Muslim community with the Johns Creek Police Department. Our board member, Naeem Mulla, also completed the citizens police academy course. Imam Arshad and Br Naeem also represent the masjid at the Johns Creek Interfaith Alliance. We hosted pizza with the mayor and also had the JCPD hold their roving roll call in our parking lot. Through these meetings we have met with the mayor and other city officials. Having a seat at these tables offers our community a voice and we look forward to more from the community volunteering for these efforts inshaAllah.



Sports!

Masjid Jafar community members participated in many athletic events. We had teams of brothers and sisters playing volleyball, tennis, badminton, and even engaging in a push-up competition with the Atlanta Muslim Running Club. We hope to engage in more efforts that promote a healthy and active lifestyle inshaAllah.



GIVING BACK

Alhamdulillah, our community initiates charitable efforts. We appreciate Br Rizvan Rahamath for his coordination and execution of some of our recurring programs. Our community initiated efforts include:

- Food drives
- Winter drives
- Feed the hungry (monthly)
- Eid toy drives
- Fundraising for local causes and organizations

We also engage in collaborative efforts to benefit not just the Muslim community but our broader community as well. These included:

- MLK Day Tree Planting
- Stocking the North Fulton Community Charities pantry

We look forward to engaging in more activities. If any community members have ideas, please reach out to Imam Arshad (imam@masjidjafar.com).





Give

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SADAQA & ZAKAT

One of our proudest achievements as a community is our combined contributions to charitable causes that support local, national, and international causes primarily for our brothers and sisters in Islam. We are proud to report our total amounts gathered and distributed by Allah's blessing and favor from both our sadaqah and zakat accounts. Detailed breakdowns of these contributions are available. Please see Imam Arshad or Br Naeem for more details. We pray to Allah to accept our efforts and to continue to bless us with the ability to provide more for those in need.

Total Sadaqah Distributed

\$99,184.14

Total Zakat Distributed

+ \$87,989.76

Total Charitable Efforts

\$187,176.90

RAMADAN 2022

Our theme for Ramadan was Building Bridges: Increasing our Iman & Connecting as a Community. We held a Ramadan Ready workshop to help our community prepare. We are grateful for all of our speakers including Hafiz Ahmed Ali, Shaykh Yousef Kromah, Brother Ghazanfar Mian, Sisters Omnia AbdelGawad and Seher Haque for giving us amazing workshops.

During Ramadan we had themed, specific programming aimed at helping us grow closer to Allah and connect with each other with Br. Hussein Mereby and Imam Arshad as they led weekend talks in between Taraweeh and before Sunday iftars.

We were blessed with our Huffaz who led us in Taraweeh including Brothers Hussain Shekhani, Zain Ghazanfar, Hadi Syed, Muzammil Mohammed, Jafar Hashim, Ibrahim Hossain and Ibrahim Mohammad.

Our sisters utilized our extra suite for female Huffaz to lead in a sisters only Taraweeh as well. Those included sisters Daniya & Hadiya Ghazanfar, Fatima Farooqi, Sanaa Shaker, Simra Baig, Ridhaa Thaaj, and Sara Jaweed.

We also reduced waste of plastic water bottles with your support. If you purchased one of the Masjid Jafar water bottles and shirts, you helped with some Ramadan expenses as well as having mementos of this year's Ramadan!

May Allah continue to grant us the best of future Ramadans as a community!



COMING UP NEXT: 2023

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The Next Chapter!

While we are excited about everything we were able to accomplish as a community, we want to continue to build and grow programs and offerings. Our community has experienced great growth and you can feel it if you attend our Jumu'ah prayer that is filled with so many brothers and sisters that we are bursting at the seams! Here is a look at some additional things to keep an eye out for in 2023. We will keep everyone updated about the launch of these initiatives. There are many ways to stay in touch with everything that is happening at Masjid Jafar. Our whatsapp group is one of our main tools. You can also follow the Masjid Jafar on Instagram (@masjid.jafar) or facebook (facebook.com/masjidjafar). To access the whatsapp group, please email imam@masjidjafar.com or ngmulla@gmail.com to be added.

Coming up...

- **THE JYM** - We are really excited about this one. So much so that we will dedicated the next page to this offering!
- **Care Club** - People in our community go through difficulty when they have fallen ill, been admitted to the hospital, or have lost a loved one. One of the sunnahs of the prophet صلى الله عليه وسلم was that he made it a right of a Muslim to be visited when they are not well. We want to help our community revive this sunnah in the best possible way. InshaAllah, in 2023, we will be formalizing a Care Club that includes members of our community who are properly trained in this sunnah to be available for visitations. We hope that through this effort, we not only provide comfort, but we are able to identify needs that can be taken care of as a community whether they be financial or otherwise.
- **More halaqas, courses, and workshops** - The first goal in our mission is to establish a center of Islamic knowledge and promote scholarship. You will continue to see more of these offerings, inshaAllah. We plan to start the year off with a course on the Seerah (biography) of the Prophet Muhammad صلى الله عليه وسلم with Allah's blessing.



The JYM stands for Jafar Youth Movement. Imam Arshad and a dedicated team of young professionals and some students have been spending this year building a unique, dynamic youth experience for our middle & high school boys and girls. We wanted to think beyond just a youth “group” that meets periodically; we wanted to create a movement that will allow our young people something to be proud of. Keep an eye out as we launch our pilot program in 2023 soon inshaAllah!

Our Team: Maleeha Rahim, Shamsiya Khan, Bedaura Haseen, Mohammed Isa, Basem Rehan, Humza Baig

Target Audience

- Middle & High school students
- Youth who are seeking something “more” and searchign for answers
- Parents who are seeking peace of mind about their children

What we do

- Provide a safe space to grow as a Muslim
- Offer a better understanding of Islam in a judgment free, fun environment
- Offer parents peace of mind by (1) knowing their children are in a good environment and (2) by taking over addressing the tough topics about faith

How we are different

- We offer a *structured program* with a *well designed* and *thought out curriculum*
- We offer a *safe outlet* for students to *build friendships* as they grow spiritually
- We are not afraid to *tackle the tough topics* that are really on the minds of our youth and are affecting them in their lives
- We offer *fun* and a chance to build *meaningful friendships* within the community

Vision Statement

The Jafar Youth Movement (JYM) is an innovative, organized mission to provide Muslim middle and high school youth a safe space to learn and grow in faith while forming meaningful relationships with peers from their community. We provide our youth with personable experiences and approachable coaches in tackling the tough topics and realities they will encounter in their journey of life. In order for our youth to have a proud Muslim identity, a movement is necessary that welcomes them as they are, nurtures them with compassion, and fosters healthy friendships through the lived guidance of the Quran & Sunnah.

This is *not* a youth group. *This* is a *movement*!



THANK YOU

None of our accomplishments would be possible first and foremost if Allah didn't bless our efforts and secondly if it wasn't for those in our community that attend, donate, participate, and give their valuable time and feedback. Any questions or concerns you may have, please reach out to either Imam Arshad at imam@masjidjafar.com or Br. Naeem Mulla at ngmulla@gmail.com. All of us who are entrusted with the stewardship of the masjid are grateful for your trust and ask you to remember us, the masjid, and each other in your dua. May Allah bring out hearts together and provide us with everything we need to be a successful, spiritual community.

Sincerely,

The Board of Directors: Naeem Mulla & Shamsul Haq

Imam: M. Arshad Anwar

The Executive Committee: Hussein Mereby, Taghreed Arman, Mubeena Syeda, Mohammed Rizvan Rahamath, Mohammed Nazeer & Irfana Hashim



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